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The Brooklyn Paper

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TAXI PLAN HAILED

Brooklynites may soon flag down metered livery cabs

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

Hail yes!
Brooklynites are cheering a revolutionary city initiative to put meters inside livery cabs — and allow them to make on-street pick-ups in the outer boroughs.
Presently, it is illegal for anything but a yellow medalion-bearing cab to make curbside pick-ups within the city, but the new law would extend that right to certain car service vehicles — legalizing a practice that occurs regularly in Brooklyn.
The difference is that under the proposal, passengers won't be taken for a ride when they're taken for a ride.
"Drivers give me different prices all the time to go to the same place," said Jamie Garcia, who grabs cabs from the Atlantic Terminal Mall on Flat-



Photo by Bess Adler

Livery cab driver, Mahamed Koroma, could pick up street hails under a city plan.

bush Avenue to go to Nostrand Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant. "One day, I'll get charged \$10, the next time, it's \$14."
In our test, we were quoted several different prices for a

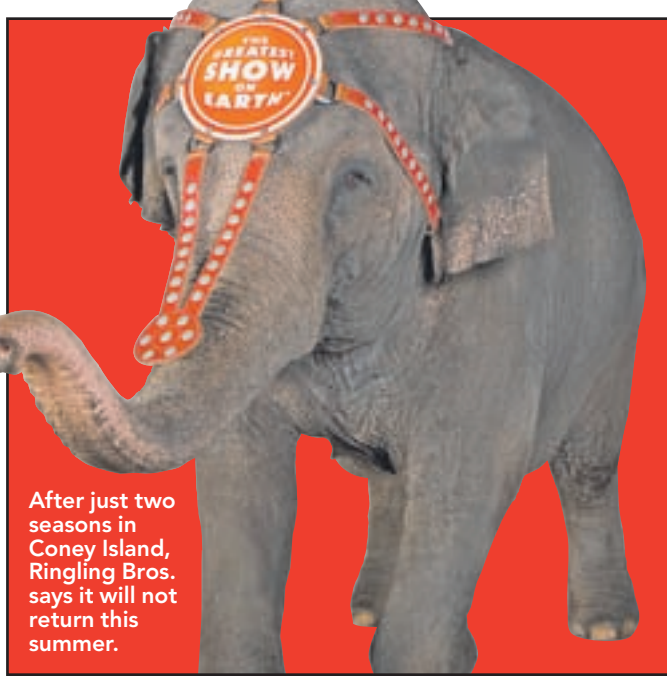
trip from the mall to Brooklyn Bridge Park in DUMBO. One driver said it would be \$10, another \$12, and two said \$15 — though most were willing to haggle.

How much?

We hailed four unmarked cabs at the corner of Atlantic and Flatbush avenues near the Atlantic Terminal Mall, asking for the price to Brooklyn Bridge Park in DUMBO. He's what we heard:

- Driver 1:** Quoted, \$12. Haggled, \$10.
- Driver 2:** Quoted, \$15. Haggled, \$12.
- Driver 3:** Quoted, \$15. Would not haggle.
- Driver 4:** Quoted, "How much are you willing to pay?" Haggled, \$10.

The operator inside the DMD Car Service taxi stand, stationed outside of the mall on Fort Greene Place, said a trip to DUMBO would cost \$12, but a DMD driver whom we hailed said the fare was \$15.
Taxi and Limousine Commissioner David Yassky says he wants to stop these unfair fares.
"We need to end these under-the-table rate negotiations so people stop getting ripped off," Yassky told Community Board 13 last Wednesday.
The city has not confirmed if the meter rates would be the same as yellow taxis, which is \$2.50 plus 40 cents for every 1/5 of a mile. Liveries that choose to register for a meter and on-street pick-up license would also be equipped with credit card readers and navigation system locators — just
See **LIVERY** on page 4



After just two seasons in Coney Island, Ringling Bros. says it will not return this summer.

CIRCUS OUT AT CONEY

Ringling Bros. not returning

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

Coney Island won't be "the greatest show on Earth" this summer.
After just two seasons on the Boardwalk, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus will not set up its big top this summer in the struggling-to-rebuild amusement district, claiming scheduling conflicts and financial issues.
P.T. Barnum once allegedly said

there's a sucker born every minute. Some locals certainly feel that way right now.
"That's a real shame — the amusement zone needs a circus," said Coney Island History Project founder Charles Denson.
The acrobats, lion-tamers and clowns of the circus attracted more a quarter of a million people to the W. 21st Street site over the past two sum-
See **CIRCUS** on page 4



Luke Matheny on Sunday.

Local snags first Oscar

Brooklyn has a new Oscar winner! Bedford-Stuyvesant filmmaker Luke Matheny, 35, can now add Academy Award winner to his credits after his clever short film, "God of Love," picked up the naked gold statuette on Sunday night. Our own Aaron Short caught up with Matheny a day after his surprise win, as he was still reveling in his whirlwind Hollywood weekend.

Aaron Short: First off, congratulations. Were you surprised you won over the other four nominees?
Luke Matheny: I expected it was a 20-per-

cent possibility. A lot of people have been telling me that the speech seemed off the cuff, but I rehearsed it pretty meticulously. At the Academy lunch, they told

us we only had 45 seconds for an acceptance speech so I spent the time mouthing my speech. I appeared to be the only one taking it this seriously.
AS: The blogosphere says that you had the best speech. Do you agree?
LM: It's flattering. Justin Timberlake agrees. He told me in the aisle. I was so
See **OSCAR** on page 4



Though he was a crime victim twice over the weekend, Councilman Steve Levin was all smiles at the Brooklyn Heights Association's annual meeting on Monday night.

'Levin-gate' shocks Boerum Hill

Councilman's office is broken into — and then his car is swiped!

By Laura Gottesdiener
The Brooklyn Paper

Watergate, it ain't.
A hapless thief broke into the Atlantic Avenue office of Councilman Steve Levin (D-Brooklyn Heights) over the weekend — hours after the lawmaker had his 11-year-old Honda stolen from in front of his Greenpoint house.

The freshman legislator had to laugh at his run of bad luck.
"It was a little funny," he said.
"I got a call saying that my office had been burglarized, so I said I'd be down there in a few minutes — and then I had to call them back to say I wouldn't be coming because my car was gone."
Levin's travails began late on

Feb. 26, when he parked his ancient wheels on Morgan Avenue near Meeker Street.
Sometime overnight, the classic car was stolen, but Levin only discovered the crime at 5 am when he got the call about the 4:20 am break-in at his office.
Cops say that Louis Adule, 22, broke through the glass windows

at the Boerum Hill district office between Court Street and Boerum Place — and a witness and Levin said that the thief was trying to steal a flat-screen TV just inside the office.
But an ear-witness heard it all.
"Living here for 30 plus years, you get to know the sounds — po-

lice, ambulances, sirens — but a loud thud at 5 am? No way," said Jerry Haggerty, who called cops.
By the time officers arrived, Adule had made his way into the office, where he was trying to steal computer monitors, Levin said. He was arrested at the scene.
There's no indication that the
See **LEVIN** on page 4

Washington gets sweeter

Local pols eating up Ridge baker's capitol idea

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Let them eat Bay Ridge cake.
The elaborate cake that Vice President Biden munched at a pol-studded Manhattan lawmaker's bash last week was the brainchild of one neighborhood perfectionist.
Nick Nikolopoulos of Bay Ridge Bakery created the U.S. Capitol-shaped cake for the birthday of Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Manhattan) last week — further proof that Brooklyn bakers are not only better, but bigger.
The vanilla and chocolate



LET THEM SEE CAKE: Nick Nikolopoulos, chef and owner at Bay Ridge Bakery, made this unbelievable cake for Rep. Carolyn Maloney's birthday party over the weekend. Vice President Biden was on hand.

mousse cake cost as much as a car and was bigger than a child. It sat as a sweet centerpiece at Maloney's birthday party/\$500-a-plate fundraiser on Feb. 23, which was held at a Manhattan hotel, four days after Maloney's actual birthday.
Nikolopoulos toiled for 42 hours over the five-foot, \$8,000 piece of edible art.
"I got really, really into it," said the master baker, whose shop is on Fifth Avenue near 83rd Street.
"I started to research everything about the architecture — and even the potted plants on the lawn."
Two men had to carry the blue
See **CAKE** on page 4



Illustration by Sylvan Migdal

MINORITY REPORT

Time Warner internship program under fire

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

A much-hyped internship program for inner-city kids created by the Time Warner media giant is a flop — and it's because the program appears to be designed more to help local minority politicians

than minority students.
Not a single Brooklynite has applied this year for the "Connect a Million Minds" internship, which couples a standard online application process with a bizarre — and politically questionable — demand that all applicants "pro-

vide a letter of recommendation from a member of the NYS Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus."
The requirement politicizes the search for talented minority kids, said two people involved
See **INTERNS** on page 9

Chalk it up

City would lay off more than 1,000 Bklyn teachers

By Gary Buiso
The Brooklyn Paper

Mayor Bloomberg is not hot for Brooklyn teachers.
The city's doomsday budget scenario calls for 1,117 out of 19,007 teachers to be laid off — and Brooklyn accounts for close to 24 percent of the 4,675 proposed layoffs citywide.
And some schools would lose half of their teachers — the result, the mayor says, of a state school aid cut of \$1.4 billion.
Principals took the proposed cuts personally.
"It [would be] very difficult to see them go," said Cynthia Holton, principal at PS 107 on Eighth Avenue in Park Slope, which would lose six out of its 35 teachers, or 17 percent, under the mayor's plan. "Not only do you feel personally committed to them, but layoffs will hurt the school system. We don't want to increase class size."

The city published a map over the weekend detailing the layoffs at each affected school in hopes that parents would join the fight to pressure state officials to change the "arbitrary standard" that makes it more difficult to fire teachers with seniority.
The state Senate made the change on Tuesday, but Assembly leaders said they would not take up the bill.
Because seniority rules remains in place, city officials said, the proposed cuts would disproportionately affect newer schools or buildings in high poverty areas, where teacher retention can be a challenge.
And the cuts will be deep at some schools, including the Brighter Choice Community School in Bedford-Stuyvesant, which would lose five of its eight teachers, or 63 percent of the total; and the Khalil Gibran
See **TEACHERS** on page 9



Brooklyn's cab

Karsan, from Turkey, says it will build new taxis here

By Gary Buiso
The Brooklyn Paper

Hey, Brooklyn, you now have a rooting interest in the city's quest to find "the taxi of tomorrow."
A politically connected foreign automaker says it will bring hundreds of manufacturing jobs to the borough if its design is selected as the city's new yellow cab.
Turkish automaker Karsan USA is one of the three com-

panies remaining in the running to replace the current fleet with a safer, greener and more comfortable model.
The other two contenders are Detroit icon Ford and Nissan North America — but only Karsan's cabs will have a Brooklyn touch.
"There has been mention of a possible Brooklyn location for some of the assembly," said a city official familiar with the
See **CABS** on page 4



Photo by Mario Burger

Brooklyn is getting a dose of Americana — a Rotary Club.

By Laura Gottesdiener
The Brooklyn Paper

A staple of small-town America is coming to the nation's first suburb, and, no, it's not Walmart.
Rotary Club — the service-oriented, weekly meeting groups that pepper the prairie and warm the heartland — just started a chapter for Brooklyn Heights, and the group's president, Vivian

Hardison, is betting that Rotary's small-town traditions still have a place, even in a cutting-edge, self-obsessed borough.
"Those old values that we all grew up with have never disappeared," said Hardison, who founded the Brooklyn Bridge Rotary Club one month ago.
Rotary clubs began in
See **ROTARY** on page 9

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Brutal attack on Smith Street

76TH PRECINCT
Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill-Red Hook

A woman was robbed and beaten at knife-point outside of the troubled NY Perks bar on Smith Street on Feb. 26.

The 40-year-old victim told cops she had left the bar, which is near Warren Street, at midnight and was suddenly attacked near Butler Street outside of Angry Wades, another bar, by two men who approached her from behind, put a knife to her neck, and threw her to the pavement.

The violent duo made off with a Louis Vuitton handbag containing 13 credit cards, \$70, two gift cards and a cell-phone.

Smooth criminal

A dry-skinned dope stole 10 bottles of Oil of Olay moisturizer from a Smith Street drug store on Feb. 19.

Cops said that when the man was confronted by Rite Aid security at around 10:30 pm, he threatened the person with a knife and warned,

POLICE BLOTTER

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Camera snap

Someone stole a high-end camera from a car on Henry Street on Feb. 26.

The 41-year-old victim said she left her 2003 silver Toyota near Fourth Place at around 6:30 am and when she returned at 11:30 am, the driver's-side window was damaged, and a \$1,500 Leica camera and \$250 gym bag were gone.

— Gary Buiso

84TH PRECINCT
Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO-Boerum Hill-Downtown

No dyes

A masked perp robbed the Sovereign Bank on Montague Street on Feb. 24 after passing a threatening note to the teller.

The mustachioed man, who concealed his identity under a ski cap, entered the bank, which is between Court and Clinton streets, at around 10:45 am and passed the teller a note reading, "No dye packs; no one has to get hurt."

Given the threat, the teller passed the perp \$3,500, and called the cops after he fled.

Pack snatch

A would-be photographer stole a backpack stuffed with fancy electronics in front of the DUMBO Starbucks on Feb. 27.

The victim told cops that he was enjoying a cup of coffee at the chain java joint on Front and Main streets at around 12:50 pm when a thug stole his black backpack, getting a wireless transmitter, a flash and battery packs valued at \$4,750.

Badberry

Two men snatched a woman's Blackberry on Feb. 24 on State Street.

The women told cops that she was near Bond Street at 7:30 pm when two boys approached, snatched the smartphone from her hand and fled toward Jay Street.

Muscle heist

A thug stole a wallet from the locker room of a fancy

Joralemon Street gym on Feb. 26.

The victim told cops that he left his wallet in an unlocked locker in the Equinox gym between Court and Clinton streets at around 7 pm.

When the athlete returned from his workout 10 minutes later (some athlete!), the wallet was gone — along with his credit cards, drivers license, insurance cards and \$100.

Wheel bad

A perp smashed a window and stole stuff from a Honda on Plymouth Street on Feb. 20.

The victim told cops that he parked his 2008 sedan between Jay and Bridge streets at around 5 pm and returned a half hour later to find his window broken and nearly \$4,000 in computer accessories and designer clothing gone.

— Laura Gottesdiener

88TH PRECINCT
Fort Greene-Clinton Hill

Snatched up

Two iPhone thieves jumped a train commuter on Feb. 24 — but one of them didn't get away with his crime.

The straphanger was sitting on a Manhattan-bound C train entering the Lafayette Avenue station at 8:50 pm when one of the thieves approached, demanding his smartphone.

The thief then punched the victim in the face and pulled a knife, but the iPhone owner managed to disarm the goon as the two struggled.

The victim did drop his pricey phone during the fracas, which the thief's accomplice quickly scooped up. Cops caught up with the sidekick a short time later, finding the stolen iPhone in the man's pocket.

iPhone invasion

Four goons stormed into a St. Edwards Street home on Feb. 21 just so they could swipe a man's iPhone.

The thieves followed their 23-year-old victim to his apartment between Myrtle and Park avenues before pouncing at 6:30 pm.

Senior attacked

A thug jumped a 73-year-old woman during a botched Feb. 25 robbery attempt on St. James Place — a brutal mugging that left his victim hospitalized.

The senior was between Gates Avenue and Fulton Street at 10:48 am when the thief grabbed her purse — dragging the septuagenarian to the ground in his failed bid for the bag.

Bag snatch

A thief ran past a 28-year-old at the corner of Fulton Street and Ashland Place on Feb. 25 — snatching the man's backpack as he sped by.

The victim was nearing the corner at 2:30 pm when the thief zipped past, taking the man's MP3 player, Metrcard and \$48.

Handbag grab

A thug ended up in a tug of war over a 35-year-old woman's handbag during a Feb. 20 clash on Cumberland Street.

The victim was between Lafayette and Greene avenues at 11:30 pm when the thief ran by, yanking her purse off her shoulder.

The woman briefly held onto the bag, prompting a struggle before the thief finally ran off with it.

Guard dogged

A shoplifter wiggled out on an off-duty cop on Feb. 21 after he was caught swiping nine boxes of Claritin allergy medicine from the Target in the troubled Atlantic Terminal Mall at Flatbush and Atlantic avenues.

The thief was heading toward the door with the medication at 4 pm when the cop, who was moonlighting as an Atlantic Terminal security guard, stopped him.

The crook was arrested, but not before sparking a fight that left the officer with bruised and bloody fingers.

— Thomas Tracy

90TH PRECINCT
Southside-Bushwick

Art theft

An art-loving thief took a \$15,000 drawing left in a moving van on Roebling Street on Feb. 26.

The victim was moving art from a rental truck into his S. Third Street apartment at 5:10 pm, but left the truck unlocked.

When he went to the ve-

hicle to take the last painting up to his room, he found that it had been stolen.

He's now offering a \$500 reward for its return.

Taxi robbery

Two perps jacked a cab on Bushwick Avenue and took its passenger's property on Feb. 27.

The perps blocked the victim's cab near Grand Street at around 4:30 am, got out of their car and held up the victim at knife-point.

"Don't move my man," one thug said, adding, "I told you I was gonna get you."

The victim gave up \$200 and his phone.

Pocket rifle

Three perps tried to rob a man on S. Ninth Street on Feb. 25 — but he was broke so they left him alone.

The man was near Wythe Avenue at 11:20 pm when three perps tackled him and one demanded, "Give me your money." They rifled his pockets, found nothing, and ran away.

Road report

At least two cars were swiped:

- A thief stole a car from Powers Street overnight on Feb. 25. The owner had parked his Honda near Bushwick Avenue at 7 pm, but returned the next day to find it gone.
- A perp took a Honda from Boerum Street overnight on Feb. 24. The owner told cops that she'd parked near Broadway at 7 pm, but when her son tried to drive away at 6 the next morning, the car wasn't there.

'Second' chance

Three perps snatched two laptops from a Lorimer Street restaurant on Feb. 21 while its owners were ordering food.

The two victims were eating in the Second Stop cafe at 7:25 pm, when three men entered the premises, grabbed the laptops and fled down Ainslie Street.

The victims gave chase and recovered one computer.

Robbed landlord

A landlord allegedly robbed his Metropolitan Avenue tenant of fancy furniture while the tenant was on vacation.

A witness told the tenant that his landlord entered the apartment near Olive Street on Jan. 17 and took \$19,000 worth of chairs and love seats — and even the toilet!

— Aaron Short

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W'burg cop parks a lot

His 'Stang never moves, even for alternate side

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

Rules are made to be broken — especially if you're a cop in Williamsburg.

A 94th Precinct officer has been openly flouting alternate-side parking rules by parking his Mustang on Roebling Street and prominently displaying his police-issued parking permit on his dashboard to avoid getting a ticket.

Residents have seen black Ford camping out in the same spot near N. Seventh Street for nearly two months while other drivers diligently moved their cars every Monday and Thursday morning when the parking rules are enforced.

The officer, who works at the 90th Precinct, could

not be reached, but a police source said that the cop sometimes displays his permit on its windshield after his late-night shift if he can't find any parking in the neighborhood.

The source added that the officer parked his car on the street legally this morning.

But one resident claimed that the car has "never moved" from street, even after the heavy snowstorms.

"Just this morning, the officer's Mustang is the only car on that side of the street," said one resident who declined to give his name. "Those spaces on Roebling are coveted spots. It makes no sense at all, and is wrong."

It is unclear how widespread the practice but the NYPD discourages officers abusing parking privileges.



Residents say this police officer's car never moves from the corner of Roebling and N. Seventh streets in Williamsburg. A placard in the window identifies the owner as a cop.

not following alternate side parking rules cost \$45 — but if an officer who disobeys the rules could lose vacation days or have his pay docked several hundred dollars.

That doesn't seem worth it, Adamo said.

"We have to move our car, everyone else has to move their car, and he has to move it too," said Adamo.

RABBI DENIES MOLESTATION

By Aaron Short
The Brooklyn Paper

A Williamsburg rabbi pleaded not guilty last week to molesting a youngster over a four-year period.

Nechemya Weberman, 52, vehemently denied that he abused the now-16-year-old girl at his arraignment on Wednesday in Brooklyn Supreme Court.

"He would die before he would molest anyone,"



said Weberman's attorney, George Farkas, calling the charges "horrendous, terrible, [and] repulsive."

Farkas added that Weberman "has a very high standing in the community and has helped troubled families in the past."

Then he blamed the victim, saying that the family that brought the charges was "dysfunctional."

But the victim told po-

Rabbi Nechemya Weberman, accused of molesting a 12-year-old over a four-year period, lives and works in this Classon Avenue building in Clinton Hill.

Someone stole a painting

90TH PRECINCT

Southside—Bushwick

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Run over

A thug struck a cab driver with his stolen car on Grand Street on Feb. 26 and then beat him up and robbed him.

The cabbie was standing near his vehicle on Union Avenue at 4:20 am when the perp drove into his leg. He was still wincing in pain, but the perp wasn't done, leaving his vehicle, and striking the driver's head, neck and shoulder, before taking \$80 from his pocket.

Later that day, police arrested the thug and recovered the car.

Robbed landlord

A landlord allegedly robbed his Metropolitan Avenue tenant of fancy furniture while the tenant was on vacation.

A witness told the tenant that his landlord entered the apartment near Olive Street on Jan. 17 and took \$19,000 worth of chairs and love seats — and even the toilet!

— Aaron Short

94TH PRECINCT

Greenpoint—Northside

Tree hacked

A thief stole construction tools from the site of a future luxury hotel near N. 11th Street on Feb. 21.

The perp broke into the

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Church to be demolished

Ridge site just half-block from former Green Church

By Helen Klein
The Brooklyn Paper

Another one of Bay Ridge’s beloved old churches is going to be demolished for development — and locals aren’t happy.

Salam Arabic Lutheran Church on Ovington Avenue, which was recently sold by the New York Lutheran Synod for \$1.5 million, will be replaced by a five-story, 25-unit apartment building, according to plans filed on Feb. 16 with the city.

“Do we need 25 more apartments? No,” said preservationist Victoria Hofmo, who lamented both the increase in density the construction will bring and the loss of a community treasure, a 70-year-old church modeled after one in Denmark.

“In Bay Ridge, there’s no way to develop without destroying something — and we’re tired of it,” Hofmo added.

But the new owner of the site, Xi Wu, said he was surprised to hear about local dis-

appointment.

“I spoke to a lot of people and nobody told me they were sad about it,” he told us.

Declining parish populations are encouraging congregations to sell off their greatest asset — their buildings.

Usually, the buildings are demolished — but they don’t need to be.

In December, the Lutheran Synod sold Salem Lutheran Church, at 67th Street near Fourth Avenue, to St. Matthew’s Church, for \$2.65 million. That building will remain.

But a year earlier, the nearly century-old Bay Ridge United Methodist Church was sold to a developer for \$9.75 million and was promptly torn down. When the real-estate boom went bust, the site was sold to the city, which is building a new public school.

Salam Arabic Lutheran Church opened as the Salem Danish Evangelical Lutheran



Photo by Peter Milo

Salam Arabic Church on Ovington Avenue is going to be torn down to make way for a 25-unit apartment building.

Church in 1942.

The building, between Third and Fourth avenues, was transferred from the shrinking Danish congregation to the Arabic one in 1995, and renamed, but it could not survive a cash-strapped Synod.

Vicious rape on Third

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

A horrific rape and attempted robbery at a Third Avenue bakery on Friday has left merchants on the fledgling Gowanus business strip on edge.

Police sources said a man in a ski mask crept into the Everybody Eat Bakery near Carroll Street moments after a 22-year-old employee opened at 8:55 am. He flashed a gun and demanded cash, then beat and sexually assaulted the young woman when she said she had no money to give.

The thug stormed out of the bakery a few moments later, walking right past a video surveillance camera as he made his escape.



Photo by Bess Adler

Jeffrey Adler watches a video of the assault suspect steps from the scene of Friday’s rape inside a Third Avenue bakery.

the area in recent months, the merchant claimed: A woman was brutalized on Third Avenue near Seventh Street over the summer, although the crime was not reported at the time.

“There isn’t a lot of foot traffic around here,” she said. “Until we get better security measures, we’re going to make sure our doors are locked when we’re not busy.”

The merchant revitalization on Third Avenue between Ninth and

Carroll streets has just begun, with only a handful of new stores and eateries popping up among a strip dominated by warehouses, plumbing supply companies and the Al-Madinah Islamic School.

Yet some defiant storekeepers say Friday’s attack isn’t going to scare them off.

“[The attack] was shocking because we’re in a good neighborhood, but I still feel pretty safe,” said Joe Salimeri of Pizza Cotta-Bene near Carroll Street. “We watch each other’s backs.”

Anyone with information is encouraged to call Crime-Stoppers at (800) 577-8477. All calls will be kept confidential.

Sex predator in Ridge

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

A gun-wielding man sexually assaulted and robbed two women in the span of about 40 minutes on Feb. 25 on 82nd Street in Bay Ridge, cops say.

The first incident occurred between Fifth and Sixth avenues at around 11:15 pm. The perp approached a 44-year-old woman from behind and pointed a gun to her back.

He pushed her into the building and yelled, “I’m going to kill you bitch” before jacking her cellphone and \$6.

The mugger also unzipped his pants and tried to unzip the victim’s jacket before she fought him off. He finally fled.

About 20 minutes later near Fifth Avenue, the same jerk approached a victim, showed off a handgun, and forced his victim behind a building, where he sexually assaulted her.

The perp then took her cellphone and fled.

“The investigation is ongoing and we’re taking this very seriously,” said 68th Precinct Deputy Inspector Eric Rodriguez. “It’s an unusual incident; there aren’t many sexual assaults around here.”

This is the first sexual assault to be reported within the confines of the Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights precinct this year. The last sexual assault was three years ago, Rodriguez said.

Violent thug beats woman

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

A violent scoundrel snatched a woman’s purse, then beat her up on Sixth Street, before being arrested on Feb. 22.

The 44-year-old lady told cops that she was walking to work, near Eighth Avenue, at around 11:15 pm, when she felt someone grab her from behind. The jerk snatched her purple handbag, then punched her in the face repeatedly and ran away, leaving her with cuts and swelling.

Cops then spotted the 34-year-old thief minutes later and arrested him near Fourth Street.

Domestic bandit

A ballsy jerk snatched some kitchenware from a construction site on Butler Street on Feb. 25.

The 28-year-old victim told cops he was inside an

apartment, which was under construction near Fourth Avenue, at around 7:30 pm when someone pushed open the front door. The thief scampered in, grabbed a microwave oven, then ran back out.

Lost game

A thief stole a fancy videogame player from a man on 14th Street on Feb. 23.

The 41-year-old victim told cops that he left his apartment, near Fifth Avenue, at 2:20 pm, then came back three hours later to find his door open and his \$600 laptop and new Sony PlayStation gone.

Pimpled thug

Three creeps stole a man’s cash then threatened him on Sterling Place early on Feb. 26.

The 30-year-old victim told cops that he was near Sixth Avenue at 1:35 am when three men ran up to him.

POLICE BLOTTER

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“How much money you got?” one of them shouted. “Pull it out or you’ll get shot!”

The poor guy handed over \$5 to the poetic perp while two of the thugs patted down the victim, snatched his cellphone.

No improvement

A crook jacked a bag and credit cards inside the Lowe’s hardware superstore on Second Avenue on Feb. 23.

The victim told cops she left the store, which is on Ninth Street between Second Avenue and the Gowanus Canal, at around 6:40 pm and came back 20 minutes later. That’s when she discovered that someone had

shattered the building’s front window and stolen a \$150 black leather bag full of credit cards.

Cameras in the parking lot show a man jumping into a silver, four-door Hyundai and driving away.

Cold north

A quick-moving crook stole a laptop from a Southern lady at a coffee shop on Union Street on Feb. 26.

The 30-year-old Teenssee lass told cops that she was at the Tea Lounge, near Seventh Avenue, at around 8 pm. She left her bag near some couches and walked outside for 10 minutes, then discovered her laptop, Blackberry cellphone and wallet gone.

Surveillance cameras were no help; they only show the front of the building.

Toyota swipe

A crook jacked a car from a senior citizen on 11th Street on Feb. 24.

The 68-year-old victim told cops that he parked the car, near Eighth Avenue, at 11 am, then went to do some shopping. He came back and hour and a half later and discovered that his 2001 Toyota Camry was gone — with no evidence of a break-in.

Bad patient

A slimeball stole some money from a hospital worker on Sixth Street last week.

The victim told cops that she was conducting a study on asthma on Feb. 16 at New York Methodist Hospital, near Eighth Avenue. She wrote a participating patient a check but the jerk then used the routing number to make fake checks —

and to steal about \$6,000 over the course of the next seven days.

Van plan

A crafty thief swiped a van on Sterling Place between Feb. 21 and Feb. 23.

The 50-year-old victim told cops that he parked and locked the white van near Sixth Avenue at 2:30 pm on Feb. 21. He returned two days later and discovered it gone.

— Natalie O’Neill

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights

Road report

At least two cars were broken into last week. Here are the annoying details:

- Someone stole cards, \$100 and photos from a car parked on 82nd Street overnight on Feb. 20. The victim told cops that he left his ride near Seventh Avenue at around 9 pm and returned at 7:40 am to find his stuff gone.
- Someone stole a purse from inside a car on Bay

Ridge Avenue on Feb. 25. The victim told cops that she parked between 11th and 12th avenues at around 6:45 am and left her purse in the car. When she returned a few minutes later, the bag — and the jewelry and cards it contained — was gone.

Honda horror

Two dudes stole the rims and tires from a Honda on 72nd Street on Feb. 22.

A witness told cops that she saw two guys in black hoodies pulling the jack move near Narrows Avenue at around 3 am before fleeing in a gray minivan.

— Alex Rush

77TH PRECINCT

Prospect Heights

Hard job

A group of thugs beat up a delivery boy and stole his bike and food on Butler Place on Feb. 23 — but cops gave them a case of heartburn.

The 17-year-old victim told cops that he was working near Plaza Street East at 8:25 pm when eight men began to hit him in the face and

head. They forced him to the ground, stole his \$300 mountain bike, \$15, and even the food he was carrying.

Cops arrested eight teenagers and charged them with felonies the same night.

Missing bike

A jerk snatched a fancy motorbike from a sushi shop worker on Flatbush Avenue on Feb. 27.

The 49-year-old victim told cops he chained his \$500 silver ride to a pole outside Sushi Tatsu, near Park Place, at around 9:30 pm. The worker then watched a man break the locks and ride away.

Subaru smash

A thief broke into a car and stole a camera and other goodies on Pacific Street on Feb. 26.

The 31-year-old victim told cops that she parked her 2004 Subaru Forester near Underhill Avenue at around noon and returned three hours later to find her window broken and her leather purse, Canon camera and Coach gloves gone.

— Natalie O’Neill



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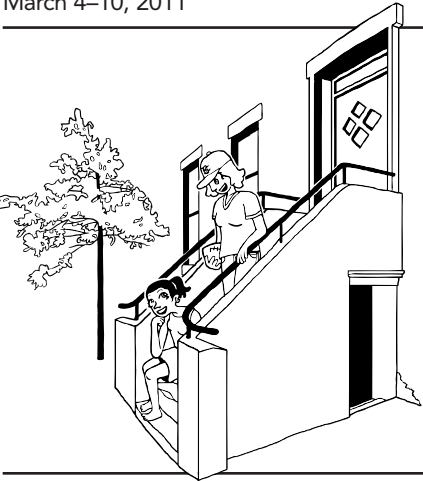
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THE stoop

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

PARK SLOPE

Call it ‘BAR-clays Center’

New nightlife scene emerges as Nets arena rises



Fifth Avenue’s beloved old-man bar, O’Connor’s, will get a makeover. Bar regular Dan Myers isn’t so thrilled with the idea.

O’Connor’s gets a pre-Nets makeover

By Natalie O’Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Fifth Avenue’s beloved old-man bar, O’Connor’s, will get a makeover and expansion just in time for the Barclays Center to open a couple blocks away—but the owner says his loyalties are to longtime customers, not the thousands of sports fans who will fill the arena next year.

Come summertime, the no-frills dive will be expanded to include an upstairs restaurant with seating that serves “good, off-the-bone Irish-American food” and—for the first time—beer on tap. It will be three times bigger and one story taller.

“We’re trying to keep the old look, but modernize it a bit,” said owner Mike Maher, who has run the bar, near Dean Street, for three years.

Maher said that the renovation and retooling had nothing to do with the 19,000-seat arena rising one block away, but the arena is sure to draw a crowd of sporty types from

outside Park Slope to a place that’s now only popular with a small band of regulars.

And some of those elbow-benders are disappointed.

“There won’t be that same run-down feeling,” said Dan Myers, who founded the blog, Here’s Park Slope.

Even a bartender admitted this week that “the vibe might change” in a bar that was founded in 1934, and hasn’t changed through World War II, the white flight of the 1950s, the urban turmoil of the 1960s and the gentrification of the 1990s.

But not everyone is upset.

“The times, they are a changing,” said regular John Loneragan. “You must go with the flow. When I used to come here more than 20 years ago, it was all Korean War vets. The Old Guard is gone. Now it’s all Yuppies.”

O’Connor’s [39 Fifth Ave. at Dean Street in Park Slope, (718) 783-9721].

Slopers too late to stop bar

Despite protest, Prime 6 already has license

By Gary Buiso
The Brooklyn Paper

Dozens of enraged Park Slopers stormed a community board meeting on Monday night to object to a liquor license for a controversial bar at the corner of Flatbush and Sixth avenues—but the protesters quickly learned that they were too late: the liquor license had been granted earlier this month because no one raised an objection.

Akiva Ofshtein was granted his license by the State Liquor Authority on Feb. 16 for his location inside the former Royal Video store about a block and a half from the under-construction Barclays Center basketball arena.

He had notified Community Board 6 back in November of his intention to seek the license. The board had 30 days to object, but it did not.

As a result, Ofshtein’s attorney George Karp filed for the license application on Jan. 18, and the liquor agency granted the license—actually three, for bar service in the main restaurant, a basement lounge, and a backyard area—on Feb. 16 following a hearing in Manhattan, at which no objections were raised.

“If they don’t show up to the hearing, I assumed no one is concerned,” said Karp.

That was a bad assumption, if Monday night’s meeting is any indication. After the obligatory complaints that they had not been informed about Ofshtein’s bid for a license, locals went on the attack against the Canarsie native’s bar itself.

“This is Park Slope, not the Lower East Side!” said Paul Z-



Akiva Ofshtein is under fire for his plan to open a bar in the old Royal Video shop at Flatbush and Sixth avenues.

moff, an area broker who echoed the sentiment of dozens of residents.

The business will occupy a prime spot in what is already a nightlife hub, one that will undoubtedly get busier with the arrival of the Brooklyn Nets. The battle against the bar can be seen, in part, as a proxy battle for the lost war over Atlantic Yards.

“The use that you proposed is not acceptable to this community,” warned Sue Jacobs, a St. Marks Avenue resident.

That said, it’s unclear what “use” Ofshtein is actually considering.

In an interview, he told us that he has yet to decide what type of restaurant his place will be, deciding between a “California kitchen” and a steakhouse, possibly named Prime 6.

But either way, he insisted, his restaurant is for locals.

“I am gearing up for a Park Slope clientele,” he said, promising a May opening.

The bar will serve food until 4 am, feature two large televisions, a private party area, “acoustic music,” and an outdoor garden area—which residents said must be removed from his plans.

“My goal is not to turn people away or make them angry,” said Ofshtein, a lawyer by trade who said he worked as a waiter for years and managed the now-shuttered Tavern on the Green from 1997 to 1998.

“Our ultimate goal is to have a high-end style Manhattan restaurant in Brooklyn,” he claimed.

But that image was betrayed by Ofshtein’s Prime 6 Myspace page, which featured suggestively posed women, and Facebook page which included a link to the “Prime 6 mixed CD,” created by hip hop artist DJ Big Jeff, who has songs titled, “Motha F—ka, I’m Ill” and “New Money.”

Ofshtein disavowed any involvement with the pages, saying they were done by an independent business to drum up interest in his venture.

But the explanations struck a disingenuous chord with residents, who said Karp’s client was a fish out of water.

“He made it very clear that he is not interested in being a good neighbor,” said Jen Abrams, a Park Place resident. “So what sort of business owner is he going to be?”

FORT GREENE

Location, location, location

Building owner thinks lot would make perfect hotel

By Laura Gottesdiener
The Brooklyn Paper

Hotel? No tell.

The owners of a vacant four-story apartment building across the street from the Brooklyn Academy of Music have put the site on the market—and they’re trying to generate excitement by marketing it as the perfect “hotel opportunity.”

“The location is irreplaceable,” said David Hubchman, a broker at Prudential Douglas Elliman, referring to the world-renowned cultural institution steps away and the Barclays Center basketball arena two blocks to the south that will be completed next year.

“Just think about all the cultural events,” Elliman added. “You’re talking about hundreds of hotel rooms a year.”

In other words, it’s now worth \$5.5 million—up from the \$3.4 million that the current owners paid in 2007.

Current zoning allows roughly six stories in height, but air rights from a neighboring building, plus the inclusion of a community



The four-story apartment building across the street from the Brooklyn Academy of Music might become a nine-story hotel (right). The current building on the site (above) is smaller and does not occupy the lot’s entire footprint.



space, would allow the new owners to build more. A rendering put out by the sellers shows a nine-story hotel, featuring a rooftop deck.

There is no guarantee that the purchasers will build a hotel, though hoteliers remain bullish on Brooklyn.

Ever since the Marriott Hotel on Adams Street doubled its capacity in 2006, the borough has been on a room

binge. Gowanus has become home to several small hotels, and two more hotels will join Hotel Le Jolie in Williamsburg, including a 73-room lodge by DUMBO titans David and Jed Walentas.

Duffield Street just to the west of the BAM Cultural District will soon by home to four new hotels.

Throughout this hotel craze, the BAM Cultural Dis-

trict has remained a bed-and-breakfast area only—though that will likely change when Bruce Ratner’s basketball arena is done.

“A hotel is something that has been proposed for a long time,” said Councilwoman Letitia James (D-Fort Greene).

“People are anticipating the arena, which would necessitate a hotel.”

DYKER HEIGHTS

Rep. Grimm opens Brooklyn office

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

Freshman Rep. Michael Grimm opened his district office on 13th Avenue in Dyker Heights on Feb. 26—and his constituents couldn’t be happier.

“It’s good it’s here,” resident Alex Lintov told us as he looked at the small storefront office between 73rd and 74th streets, right between the Prestige Beauty Spa and C-Gal Jewelers. “I really like [Grimm]. I think I’m going to go in there and see him someday.”

Lintov was not alone: Bor-

rough President Markowitz and Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Bay Ridge)—both Democrats—toured the office on Saturday afternoon, noshing on cookies and cupcakes topped with American flags as they soaked in the serene, powder blue walls adorned with paintings of the Verrazano Bridge and the Coney Island boardwalk.

“This is nice. [The walls are] the same color as my bathroom,” one onlooker remarked.

Grimm, a Republican who represents Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Gravesend and Bensonhurst opted for Dyker

Heights because it has very few legislative offices.

“Throughout the campaign, I heard over and over again that the Brooklyn side of this district had been neglected in the past,” Grimm said. “This office is one of the first steps I’m taking to make sure that everyone knows I’m very excited about representing them and working with them to make this community better than it is already.”

Nick Curran, Grimm’s Brooklyn district director, said he and constituent service representatives Liam McCabe and Clorinda An-

narumo would be handling day-to-day concerns ranging from Social Security snafus to immigration problems. The office will also act as a base of operations as Curran and his team attends community meetings and functions for Grimm, who promised to be on the Brooklyn side of the cross-harbor district as often as possible when he’s not in D.C.

Rep. Michael Grimm’s Brooklyn office [7308 13th Ave. between 73rd and 74th streets in Dyker Heights, (718) 630-5277]. Monday through Friday, 9 am-5 pm.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS



Tom Stewart of the Brooklyn Heights Association presents a “community service” award to Brooklyn Heights Blog Publisher John Loscalzo.

A big night for the BHA

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

All the stars of Brooklyn Heights—from the legendary preservationists who saved the neighborhood decades ago, to the bloggers who keep the fire burning today—came out for the Brooklyn Heights Association’s annual meeting on Monday night at Plymouth Church.

The 100-year-old group doled out its awards for community service, did some housekeeping, argued over some local issues and invited education expert Diane Ravitch to speak about public schools before everyone repaired to a back hall to consume a limited supply of wine.

The housekeeping portion of the night was interesting to the insiders: the organization is running a slight deficit, its lawsuit against the state over the Tobacco Warehouse redevelopment is still controversial, helicopter noise continues to bother people, and everyone pretty much supports the expansion of PS 8 in a K-8 institution (way to go, Principal Seth!).

The best moment came after President Jane McGroarty was asked about what the group is doing about rogue cyclists.

“You know, each group [pedestrians, cyclists, drivers] thinks the other group are the a—holes,” she said, drawing guffaws throughout the church where Henry Ward Beecher once held sway.

In other words, can’t we all just get along?

Next, Ravitch spoke eloquently, though not that locally, about the importance of proper support for public schools, the downside of merit pay and the short-sightedness of Mayor Bloomberg’s obsession with testing.

But the highlight of the night came earlier when Brooklyn Heights Blog Publisher Homer Fink was honored for “outstanding community service.”

A blogger winning an award for “outstanding community service”? Have pigs taken flight?

Certainly not. Look, we may be his biggest competitor, but Fink—whose real name, John Loscalzo, was revealed to his many readers at the ceremony—does a great job with his blog.

That said, he’d be nothing without us, and our free copy—nothing, we tell you!

The Riverside Tenants Association was also honored for its long-running battle to save its courtyard from becoming a garage.

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ON THE MOVE: Seniors and Exercise

By Florence Shadlen, M.D., Chief of Geriatrics, New York Methodist Hospital

Like most people, you’ve probably heard that physical activity and exercise are good for you. Many experts believe that exercise is the single most important thing an individual can do to improve his or her health. Studies have shown that older adults have much to gain by staying physically active. Despite this fact, the majority of Americans do not get regular exercise. Unfortunately, this inactivity increases with age.

Regardless of age, physical activity helps the body maintain, repair and improve itself. One of the best ways to stay physically active is to make it a life-long habit. Set yourself up to succeed right from the start by incorporating exercise into your everyday routine. The positive benefits of exercise include:

- Strengthening the heart and lungs
- Lowering blood pressure
- Protecting against adult-onset diabetes
- Keeping joints, tendons and ligaments flexible
- Maintaining strength and muscle mass
- Increasing balance and reducing the risk of falls
- Helping to maintain body composition, with a higher proportion of muscle than fat

- Reducing the risk of coronary heart disease, stroke and hypertension
- Promoting psychological health, particularly self-esteem

Some examples of popular and beneficial forms of exercise for seniors are brisk walking, swimming, jogging, bicycling, golfing and using exercise machines. Seniors are more susceptible to exercise-related injuries than the general population. To prevent injuries, they should start slowly and gradually build up to more strenuous exercises. A minimum of 30 minutes of moderate exercise on most days of the week is enough to build up a senior’s level of physical activity.

Family members play a key role in getting seniors started on, and committed to, exercise programs. Sometimes, family members mistakenly believe that their elders risk unnecessary danger by exercising. However, a well-chosen regimen of physical activity can do a world of good. Keep in mind that different exercises have different effects on the body. Therefore, a combination of aerobic, resistive strength and flexibility exercises is recommended. Those with known medical conditions should seek the advice of an exercise expert and a physician before beginning a vigorous exercise program.

Mascot stolen from Slope bar

By Natalie O’Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

Someone kidnapped the kitschy little statue that serves as the mascot and good luck charm at Barbes bar.

The bust of a mustachioed Venezuelan healer-turned-cult figure Jose Gregorio was swiped from the Ninth Street bar earlier this year, and loyal regulars are now on a mini-manhunt for a “creepy, hipster-looking” suspect.

The theft might be a prank,



This bust of Jose Gregorio once resided at Barbes in Park Slope.

but bar owner Olivier Conan doesn’t think it’s funny. The stubby little thing has sentimental value and Conan just wants it back — no questions asked.

Jose Gregorio was a 19th-century doctor who, legend has it, performed miracles. He was a loner who treated the poor for free, studied at a monastery and died in a tragic car accident. In the statue, he is depicted with dark eyebrows, a yellow tie

and sad brown eyes.

The statue had been perched in the window between the bar and the concert room for nine years. But then on Jan. 10, a slow Monday night, it went missing — and a real-life who-dunnit ensued.

Only four people were in the bar’s concert hall in the back, including one tall and drunken 20-something who “looked affected” and “stood with alone a slouch,” said

waitress Grace Kendall.

“I got a bad feeling from him,” recalled the gumshoe booze-slinger, adding that he was hovering over the statue, near the bar’s more-typical 50-something crowd. “He was out of place.”

Soon after, bartender Justin Lane Briggs noticed an empty spot in the window, where the statue once stood.

“It was a ‘gasp’ moment,” Briggs said. Sure enough, Gregorio was gone.

LEVIN...

Continued from page 1

crime had any connection to the lawmaker’s day job, even though the office is filled with enough city secrets to keep G. Gordon Liddy excited for months.

Adule has been charged with burglary, criminal mischief and trespassing, said Jerry Schmetterer, a spokesman for District Attorney Charles Hynes. Adule has a prior conviction for assault-

ing a man in 2007 after trying to steal DVDs from a now-defunct dollar store on Church Avenue in Ditmas Park — an act that landed him in jail for five days.

Far less is known about the car thief up in Greenpoint. But cops from the 94th Precinct certainly aren’t surprised that a car as desirable as Levin’s 11-year-old Honda was swiped. Over the past month, there have been eight stolen cars in the precinct — the majority being Hondas or Toyotas, said 94th Precinct Deputy Inspector Terence Hurson.

“Honda Civics are a big steal,” Hurson said. “They’re popular cars and they get stolen.”

How popular? Even after his office was broken into, Levin was still bemoaning the loss of his beloved wheels.

“I really liked that car,” said Levin, specifically citing its Barack Obama sticker, dent on the driver’s side and a bungee cord holding up the front bumper.

CAKE...

Continued from page 1

and white treat through metal detectors, into the hotel, where Secret Service then inspected it.

Once the party started, about 200 guests—including Council Speaker Christine Quinn (D–Manhattan) and the vice president—toasted the congresswoman. Nikolopoulos also scored an invitation.

“I guess they liked me,” he said. “I tried to talk about cake — not politics.”

Jamie Anson, a spokesman for the congresswoman, said the expensive dessert will be reported as an in-kind contribution by March 31, when the first-quarter fundraising reports are submitted.

“It was a beautiful cake and added to the festive feel of the event.”

Biden could not be reached for comment, but The Brooklyn Paper described the treat to one of his staffers.

“You’re making me hungry,” he quipped.

CABS...

Continued from page 1

proposal.

And the work — including painting and seat placement — could bring some 350 jobs, according to Mike Schweinsburg, a spokesman for Councilwoman Sara Gonzalez (D–Sunset Park), who represents the neighborhood where the finishing work may be conducted.

Karsan USA’s president is William Wachtel, one of the founding partners of the powerful law and lobbying firm Wachtel & Masyr, whose client list includes Forest City Ratner, Home Depot and IKEA.

Backers said their support has nothing to do with politics — the Karsan V1 is just cool, featuring a rooftop solar panel and flashing to alert cyclists, pedestrians and motorists which door is opening.

It’s also the best design for people in wheelchairs.

But it was the jobs, jobs, jobs that had locals cheering.

“Anything that creates more jobs is welcome,” said Borough President Markowitz. “Regardless of who wins the ‘Taxi of Tomorrow’ competition, if they want to finish the taxis right here in Brooklyn — they have my vote!”

The company won a publicity coup recently when its design was selected as the favorite by 65-1/2 percent of respondents to the Taxi and Limousine Commission passenger survey.

Still, the city would not show its hand.

“We have three very strong final contenders and they are being evaluated as we speak,” said agency spokesman Allan Fromberg.

LIVERY...

Continued from page 1

like yellow taxis.

Many say the new rules would make them feel more comfortable about hailing the so-called “black cars.”

“It would be great to regulate them so you’d know exactly what price you’re going to get,” said Fort Greene resident Marie Schumacher. “I would take those cabs more if they had meters.”

Yellow cabbies are among the opponents to the plan.

“The mayor is proposing a second tier taxi market that will make second-class citi-

zens of taxi drivers,” Bhairavi Desai, spokesman of the New York Taxi Workers Alliance said in a statement.

But the city maintains that the mandatory navigation system in hailed livery cabs would allow the Taxi and Limousine Commission to crack down on Manhattan pick-ups, which would still be banned.

Agency spokesman Allan Fromberg added that revenue generated from the license fees paid by hailed liveries would fund increased enforcement of illegal pick-ups.

CIRCUS...

Continued from page 1

mers — quickly establishing the show as a central element of the city’s vision for a bustling amusement area extending from the Cyclone to beyond MCU Park, the home of the Cyclones minor league baseball team.

But a Ringling Bros. spokesman said that the circus’s June-September Coney show no longer “fit into the schedule.”

“We already committed to shows in the Pacific Northwest,” said the spokesman, Stephen Payne.

Insiders surmised that the circus hadn’t made as much money as it hoped to.

“They opted out of the agreement because they were having trouble making the numbers work,” said Michele de Milly, a spokeswoman for Taconic Partners, which leased the site to Ringling Bros.

Payne declined to address the money question, saying only that the circus hopes to return next summer.

The decision to ditch Coney Island is a major blow to the city, which had touted the circus as a key step in transforming the once-neglected area into a year-round tourist destination.

Ringling Bros. preceded other amusement area operations, including Luna Park, which opened last summer, and Scream Zone, which will

add two new roller coasters and other rides this spring. Both were operated by Central Amusement, the Italian-based outfit whose 10-year lease from the city is also part of the Bloomberg administration’s long-term revitalization plan.

But without the Greatest Show on Earth, Central Amusement is now the only show in town.

The city insists that the circus’s departure is a mere bump in the road.

“While the circus would have been great, it’s no longer necessary to make Coney Island a draw,” said Economic Development Corporation spokeswoman Julie Wood. “There’s a full calendar of exciting events in Coney Island this summer, headlined by Scream Zone and Luna Park.”

Opponents of the mayor’s vision for an upscale Coney Island were quick to predict that Central Amusements would also soon bow out, another big-time operator who couldn’t make the predicted killing in a small-time, past-its-prime neighborhood.

“Coney Island will forever be a poor man’s Boardwalk,” said Shoot the Freak owner Anthony Berlingieri, whose popular arcade game was bulldozed earlier this year, though it is slated to return for one more season.

OSCAR...

Continued from page 1

preoccupied before my category and I was basically just hanging out with my crew after it, so I don’t know.

AS: What is it in your film that Academy voters responded to most? What’s the formula?

LM: This was my thesis film at NYU’s graduate film program. In film school, you’re just trying to do your best. It works against you if you think, “Who likes it and who doesn’t like it.” I thought I was making something only would really like and there was some weird paradox where it became something plenty of people really liked.

AS: OK, let’s get to the good stuff: Which celebrities did you get to meet? Did any recognize you or talk about your film?

LM: Sure, yeah, it’s wall-to-wall. Normally, when you see a famous person, you avoid eye contact so not to bother them. They all recognized me from the awards, said congratulations. It was a surreal

thing. Kevin Spacey, Justin Timberlake, Danny Boyle, Amy Adams and Jake Gyllenhaal. Tom Hanks, Paul Rudd, Mark Ruffalo. Michelle Williams — she’s really nice. I was just trying to soak it in. I wasn’t trying to wheel and deal. A college friend texted me, “Say hello to Helen Mirren.” And she walked by me near the aisle, so I showed her the text and she said, “Who’s that?”

AS: What were the parties like? Did you crash any?

LM: Yes, we went to Chateau Marmont, then went to the Vanity Fair party, then we tried to go to Madonna’s party which was full and then we wrapped up the party at Mel’s Drive-in at 3 am and saw Nia Vardalos from “My Big Fat Greek Wedding.” They were a blur. It’s rare that I go to more than one party in a week than a night, let alone get driven to one in a limo.

AS: Where are you going to put it?

LM: I think my mom might take it.

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(718) 260-2500 *The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings* March 4–10, 2011

Not enough punch

'Beautiful Burnout' at St. Ann's leaves us down for the count

The Butcher of Flatbush Ave. Extension



They say boxers make the best dancers. The same could be said about the team behind “Beautiful Burnout,” a frenzied look at the so-called “sweet science” that left me dizzy — and not in a good way. After witnessing this high-octane pugilistic passion play, appearing for the first time in the U.S. at St. Ann’s Warehouse in DUMBO, I felt like I went three rounds with Mike Tyson. The simple story swarmed me with so many superfluous characters and side stories that I had no idea what was going on. Before I knew it, I was down for the count. The play takes place in Scotland, but this meandering blitzkrieg came straight out of Brooklyn; co-director Steven Hoggett got the idea for “Beautiful Burnout” when he was working on the National Theatre of Scotland’s “Black Watch” at St. Ann’s in 2008. His cast used the showers at the nearby Gleason’s Gym following performances, and Hoggett was enamored by the young boxers he met there. Thanks to the “Rocky” franchise and movies like “The Fighter” and “Raging Bull,” there are plenty of rules (not all of them Queensberry) on how to make a good boxing drama, but Hoggett ignores most of them. Instead, his play repeatedly speeds up and sputters as Hoggett jams everything he learned and everyone he met at Gleason’s Gym into a trim 90-minute tale about Cameron Burns (Ryan Fletcher), a young, dumb scrapper who joins an amateur boxing club with dreams of being a big-time contender.



THEATER
“Beautiful Burnout” at St. Ann’s Warehouse [38 Water St. between Deck and Main streets in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779], through March 27. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 8 pm; matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets \$60-\$70. For info, visit www.stannswarehouse.org.

Under the tutelage of trainer Bobby Burgess (Ewan Stewart), Burns and a crew of young pugilists — which include “Million Dollar Baby” clone Dina Massie (Vicki Manderson) as eye candy — soon learn that boxing can crush your spirit as eas-

ily as your cheekbones. But they’re grateful for the beat downs: As Burns and the other fighters are being chewed up and spat out one by one, they think about nothing but the cool nicknames they’re going to use once they get in the ring. They also do a lot of dancing: The frequent sparring montages are put to pounding club music, making them vaguely reminiscent of Tae Bo videos. Hoggett and co-director Scott Graham do choreograph the boxing matches well, freezing every punch so we can get a brief glimpse of what’s running through the fighter’s mind at the moment of impact. Sadly, many of these moments are spent

on the banal supporting cast, which is pretty much forgettable. Even Burns’s character isn’t all that interesting. The play is often saved by its moral center, Carlotta (wonderfully played by Blythe Duff), who kept the audience engaged as she went through the paces of a boxing mom, from the initial fears about her son’s decision to become a boxer to, as she puts it, “becoming a bloody extra in ‘Gladiator.’” then back to worrying over what her young fighter has become. That dramatic blow is, of course, saved for the last act, but by then, thanks to all the undercard bouts, I had already thrown in the towel.



Pow! Eddie Kay stars as the up-and-comer Neil Neill and Vicki Manderson brings some angry eye candy as Dina Massie in “Beautiful Burnout,” a play about boxing currently running at St. Ann’s Warehouse.



Blonde beauty: Catherine Deneuve has been an enduring French film star for over 40 years. Find out why when the Brooklyn Academy of Music curates a retrospective of her work, including the 1965 psycho thriller “Repulsion,” beginning March 4.

Quel magnifique!

BAM does a Catherine Deneuve retrospective starting March 4

By Ethan Alter
The Brooklyn Paper

Gallic glamour comes to the Brooklyn Academy of Music this month. A 25-film retrospective devoted to iconic French screen legend Catherine Deneuve showcases the star’s many incarnations, from the young ingénue who won moviegoers’ hearts in the 1964 musical “The Umbrellas of Cherbourg,” to the stately grande dame who proves more than a match for her overbearing husband in the new comedy, “Potiche.” “After watching that movie at the Toronto Film Festival

last year, I knew I wanted to do something around her,” said Florence Almozini, director of film programing at BAM, who kicks off the series on March 4 with a screening of “Potiche,” followed by a Q and A with the actress. “She always has this image of the beautiful, cold blonde, and yet she has played in comedies to perfection and still does.” Indeed, Deneuve earned that image thanks to such films as Roman Polanski’s chilling 1965 psychological horror movie “Repulsion,” François Truffaut’s 1969 film “Mississippi Mermaid,” and Luis Buñel’s 1967 art-house provocation “Belle de Jour.” Then again, she also did the over-the-top 2002 musical comedy “8 Women.” The retrospective includes them all, though Almozini hopes the star’s earlier work shines through. “I hope younger audiences will be able to experience her early films,” said Almozini. “Those movies are 40 years old and still feel fresh.” “Deneuve” at the Brooklyn Academy of Music [651 Fulton St. near between Rockwell and Ashland places in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], March 4-31. Tickets \$12, \$7 members. For info, visit www.bam.org.

MUSIC

Sharp benefit

On March 4, Steve Buscemi and his wife, Jo Andres, host a benefit for the avant-garde Issue Project Room at its future Downtown home on Livingston Street. The evening will feature the concert premiere of “Trilogy” by Elliott Sharp, one of the most-prolific jazz guitarists in the city and a long-time Issue Project Room supporter. The performance features film work by Andres and text and narrative by Buscemi — but the smart (OK, the cheap) money is skipping the fancy benefit and heading to the American Can Factory the next night to catch Sharp performing his newest work, “Flexagons.” Elliott Sharp at Issue Project Room [110 Livingston St. at Boerum Place in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 330-0313], March 4 at 8 pm. Tickets \$50 (\$250 for a pre-concert cocktail reception). Sharp at the American Can Factory [232 Third St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 330-0313], March 5 at 5 pm. Tickets \$35. — *Meredith Deliso*

THEATER

Yum-Yum!

Let’s face it, everyone loves “The Mikado.” The satirical Gilbert and Sullivan light musical was Regina Opera’s most successful productions when staged nearly 10 years ago, so the Bay Ridge troupe decided to bring it back with a full-scale production from March 5 to 13. Set during late 1800s Japan, the comic plot follows the love affairs of the royal residents of Titipu: the Mikado; the elderly Katisha, who is set to marry the Mikado’s son, Nanki-Poo; his dear love, Yum-Yum; and her fiancée, Ko-Ko. The Japanese setting was mainly a device to allow the writers to satirize Victorian mores at a time — 1885 — when such things were not done. Still, there’s some authenticity in the company’s production; Regina soprano Yoko Yamashita, who was trained in Japanese classical dance, has been helping with the choreography. “Our show goes from real Japanese dance all the way to British musical vaudeville choreography,” said Lehr. “We’re having a lot of fun with it.” “The Mikado” at Regina Hall [1210 65th St. at 12th Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 259-2772], March 5-6, 12-13 at 3 pm. Tickets \$23 (\$18 for students and seniors, \$5 for teens, and free for children). For info, visit www.reginaopera.org. — *Meredith Deliso*

BOOKS

British books

It’s a British invasion at BookCourt! Two notable cross-pond scribes will hit the Cobble Hill bookstore on March 10 for a fun night of satire and music — with a little reading thrown in. Author Jonathan Coe’s book, “The Terrible Privacy of Maxwell Sim,” is a England-set satire about the disconnectedness of modern life. Then Wesley Stace (pictured) — the former Englishman who music lovers know by his nom de guitar, John Wesley Harding — will celebrate his new book, “Charles Jessold, Considered as a Murderer,” a mystery about a composer who kills his wife and her lover the night before his opera premieres. The British folk tradition figures prominently in the historical drama, so Stace might break out his guitar. “I don’t think as an author you should feel yourself required to do a tap dance just because you can, but there is one song, ‘Little Musgrave,’ that is very pertinent to my book and would eloquently set up the scene,” said Stace. Cheers, mate. Wesley Stace and Jonathan Coe at Book Court [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], March 10 at 7 pm. Free. For info, visit www.bookcourt.org. — *Meredith Deliso*

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY

March 5



Good golly, Miss Mali

Get ready to hear a new voice when Sway Machinery performs songs from its sophomore album, "The House of Friendly Ghosts, Volume 1." The who's who band of city music has recruited Malian vocalist Khaira Arby to perform and she adds a dose of international energy to the bands already powerful sound.

8 pm. Sway Machinery at the Bell House [149 Seventh St. between Second and Third avenues in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510]. Tickets \$18 (at the door). For info, visit www.thebellhouseyny.com.

SUNDAY

March 6

Street beat

Catch the second day of the two-day Site Fest, which turns Bushwick into a neighborhood-wide gallery. The number of acts is simply overwhelming, so grab a map, but make sure not to miss the Belgian choreographer who will perform an endurance piece on the street — literally dancing until she drops, said festival organizer Chloe Bass. You know you want to be there when it happens.

1 pm-midnight. SITE Fest (various locations in Bushwick). Tickets \$5 per show (\$10 day pass). For info, visit www.artsin-bushwick.org/site2011.



TUESDAY

March 8



Mardi mania

This Mardi Gras get the taste of the Caribbean as Purple Yam hosts the mother of all Carnival dinners. The Trinidad and Tobago menu will have you stuffed with rich, fatty foods from guest chef Ramin Ganesharm (pictured), so be sure to wear your fat pants this Fat Tuesday.

7 and 9:30 pm. Carnival at Purple Yam [1314 Cortelyou Rd. between Argyle and Rugby roads in Ditmas Park, (718) 940-8188]. \$55 prix fixe. Reservations required. For info, visit www.purpleyamnyc.com.

THURSDAY

March 10

Stuff it!

Hey, Brooklyn taxidermists, you're doing it wrong. The animal preservation hobby has seen a resurgence of late but budding taxidermists should take a page from Melissa Milgrom's new book "Still Life: Adventures in Taxidermy," which follows eccentric naturalists and gifted museum artisans — all devoted to preserving the dead in the most life-like way possible.

7 pm. Melissa Milgrom at powerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049]. Free. For info, visit www.powerhousearena.com.



THURSDAY

March 10



Draw a line

Usually, when we start talking about redistricting, your eyes start to glaze over. But redistricting is sexy! The Bay Ridge Democrats have put together a panel featuring hunky wonks like former Village Voice writer Wayne Barrett and former Parks Commissioner Henry Stern. And our own editor Gersh Kuntzman will be moderating, so you know things will get out of hand.

7:30 pm. Good Shepherd Church (7420 Fourth Ave. at 74th Street in Bay Ridge). Free. For info, visit www.bayridge-democrats.org.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN



FRI, MARCH 4

READING, PIPER KERMAN: Author of "Orange in the New Black." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], www.bookcourt.org.

FILM, "POTICHE": As part of the Catherine Deneuve retrospective. Followed by a Q and A with the actress. \$12, \$7 members. 7 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

MUSIC, "THE NIGHTINGALE AND OTHER SHORT FABLES": Opera by Igor Stravinsky conducted by Johannes Dubus. Russian with English subtitles. \$35. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": Robert Louis Stephenson's classic pirate tale gets adapted for the stage. \$20-\$45. 7:30 pm. Irondale Center [85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 488-9233], www.irondale.org.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MAD-MAN": Geoffrey Rush stars as the titular madman in an adaptation of Gogol's darkly comic short story. \$20-\$95. 7:30 pm. BAM Harvey Theater [651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

THEATER, "ROUGH MAGIC": The Department of Theater performs this modern retelling of Shakespeare's "The Tempest." \$15, \$12 seniors, \$6 students. 7:30 pm. New Workshop Theater at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd. at Hill Place in Flatbush, (718) 951-4500], dephome.brooklyn.cuny.edu/theater.

DANCE, "FROM BAROQUE TO HIP HOP": The Brooklyn Ballet Company performs Balanchine, baroque, hip hop and original choreography. \$25, \$15 for students and seniors. 8 pm. Brooklyn Ballet [160 Schermerhorn St. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Downtown, (718) 246-0146], www.brooklynballet.org.

THEATER, "THE AMERICAN CLOCK": Brave New World Repertory performs Arthur Miller's Depression-era

play. \$18. 8 pm. Brooklyn Lyceum [227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816], www.brooklynlyceum.com.

MUSIC, "THE NEW COLLISIONS, THE FAST ROMANTICS, BOSS CHARLES": Pop-rock. \$8. 8 pm. Union Hall [702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400], www.unionhallnyc.com.

THEATER, "THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL": Jackie Alexander's play about five generations of African-American men. \$25 (\$15 senior and student discounts). 8 pm. Restoration Plaza [1368 Fulton St. at Marcy Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (212) 209-3370], www.zerve.com/bholldayinc/buster.

THEATER, "BEAUTIFUL BURNOUT": The National Theatre of Scotland returns to Brooklyn with a play about boxing. \$60-\$70. 8 pm. St. Ann's Warehouse [38 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779], www.stannswarehouse.org.

MUSIC, ISSUE PROJECT ROOM BENEFIT: Hosted by Steve Buscemi and

Jo Andres and featuring performances by Elliott Sharp, Jack Quartet, Sirius Quartet, Jack Womack, and Tracie Morris. \$50 (\$250 for a pre-concert cocktail reception). 8 pm. Issue Project Room [110 Livingston St. at Boerum Place in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 330-0313], www.issueprojectroom.org.

FILM, "REPULSION": As part of the Catherine Deneuve retrospective. \$12, \$7 members. 9:40 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

SAT, MARCH 5

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MAD-MAN": 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "ROUGH MAGIC": 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 3

THURS, MARCH 10

Community Board 10 Parks, Cultural Affairs, Communications and Public Relations Committee. 7 pm. District Office [8119 Fifth Ave. at 81st Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 745-6827], www.bkcb10.org.

Bay Ridge Democrats. Star-studded panel on redistricting featuring former Village Voice writer Wayne Barrett, former Parks Commissioner Henry Stern, and Brooklyn Paper Editor Gersh Kuntzman. 7:30 pm. Good Shepherd Church (7420 Fourth Ave. at 74th Street in Bay Ridge), www.bay-ridgedemocrats.org.

List an event: Calendar@cnglocal.com.

SUN, MARCH 6

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "ROUGH MAGIC": 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

MUSIC, "THE NIGHTINGALE AND OTHER SHORT FABLES": 3 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MAD-MAN": 3 pm. See Friday, March 4.

DANCE, "FROM BAROQUE TO HIP HOP": 3 pm. See Friday, March 4.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL CONCERT: 3 pm. See Saturday, March 5.

THEATER, "THE MIKADO": 3 pm. See Saturday, March 5.

THEATER, "THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL": 4 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "BEAUTIFUL BURNOUT": 4 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE AMERICAN CLOCK": 7 pm. See Friday, March 4.

OTHER

BROOKLYN BOOZE EXPERIMENT: Get ready for the booziest cook-off

See 9 DAYS on page 8



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Member:   



Cheers: Adam Goldstein of Red White and Bubbly not only sells wine, but he makes it, too. This year, he's introduced three new varieties: a peppery red, a fruity white and a who-needs-France sparkling wine.

Red, white & cheap

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

It takes a tough shopkeeper to make a tender wine.

And Adam Goldstein, who owns the Red White & Bubbly shop on Fifth Avenue, is a fighter in your corner. His Brooklyn Wine Company, launched in 2005 with simple red and white varieties and prices that had them flying off the shelves, is back with three new versions that celebrate how great wine can be when you're not being ripped off to buy it.

See, the problem is, most vintners are sitting there in their French chateau or their Spanish bottega devising the perfect, price-is-no-object wine. If it works out, they'll sell it for \$1,000 a bottle. If it doesn't work out, is an average bottle of wine that you'll still pay too much for.

But Goldstein goes about winemaking from the retail perspective. "I figure out what I want the bot-

DRINKING

Brooklyn Wine Company wines at Red White & Bubbly [211 Fifth Ave. between Union and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 636-9463].

tle to cost, and then I mix and match grapes that can keep me at that price point," he said.

So in the case of his new "Brooklyn Red" (\$12.95), that means lots of Cabernet Franc and Merlot grapes, but just a hint of the sometimes pricey Cabernet Sauvignon.

And in the "Brooklyn White" (\$11.95), the vast majority of the grapes are Chardonnay, with just a hint of Riesling.

And an earlier vintage, a 2005 Grand Army Meritage that's still on sale at the shop, used two varieties of Cabernet Sauvignon grapes, but only 10 percent were from the high-priced bins destined for wineries try-

ing to get you to spend more.

All of Goldstein's grapes come from Long Island or the Finger Lakes region, so frugality is key.

"Twenty-five dollars is too much for a New York wine for most of my customers," he said.

So how do the new varieties taste? The Brooklyn Red has a peppery nose that leads to a spiciness (from the Cabernet Franc) and the taste of dark fruits. It's a medium-bodied wine that would beautifully cut through the fat in a skirt steak, while also serving as the dutiful cheerleader on the sidelines when you're tucking into a fancy New York strip.

The white is full of apples, pears and honey (the Chardonnay speaks!), with a big upfront nose and sweet fruit. It lingers without a heavy mineral finish.

And the sparkling wine? We put a bottle of the \$19.95 pseudo-Champagne in the fridge for when the Pulitzer for wine criticism is announced. This story is a shoe-in.

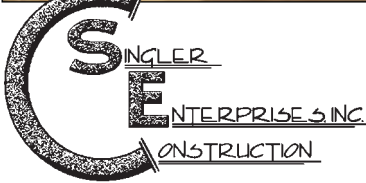
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One operatic sandwich

Unbuckle your seatbelts and get ready for the newest bits, bites, and of course, delicious gossip, from a restaurant near you.

Silly sammies: Looking for the perfect post-opera nibble? Greenpoint's Halcyon Gourmet has got you covered. The "Nixon in China" sandwich is inspired by an opera of the same name currently playing at the Met, and features Chinese Five-Spiced, Hoisin-Braised Beef Short-Rib with Fennel and Daikon Slaw on a soft bun. Wonder what "The Flying Dutchman" would taste like? Hurry though — this special sandwich, like the opera, has a strictly limited run...



Halcyon Gourmet on Banker Street in Greenpoint was so inspired by the opera "Nixon in China" that chefs created a "Nixon in China" sandwich featuring short ribs with Chinese slaw.

Pass the pig: Gear up for the rigors of Lent with a feast of porcine proportions at Tommaso Ristorante in Bath Beach. Their eagerly anticipated Carnevale celebration runs from Feb. 25 to March 8, and features a belly-busting array of traditional Italian favorites, served family style. Don't forget to pay your respects to the delicious guest of honor, a whole suckling pig grinning from his throne of lettuce and oranges!

South American Slope: Betcha can't guess what kind of food newly opened Park Slope resto, Colombia, serves. Operating out of the space on Fifth Avenue between Fifth and Sixth streets formally occupied by the Italian deli, Pollio, empanadas and carne asada are set to take the place of mortadella and ham cappy.

Land ho: We see a new nau-

tical dive on Bushwick's horizon! Grub Street offered a first look at the Anchored Inn, the seaweed-draped brainchild of Half King bartenders Adrienne Dowd and Carmen Mello. Although the theme doesn't seem to fully extend to the menu (the requisite beer and shot special for \$5, boiled peanuts), the deep sea diver by the front door seems ready to party.

Flippin' fantastic: Jake's Way-back Burger plans to open its first city franchise in our fair borough.

much more than a glorified side of vegetables." Someone tell PETA!

G'bye, mate: Grub Street reports that Williamsburg's Aussie-themed eatery, Wombat, has closed its doors. That leaves D.U.B. Pies, Sheep Station, or (gasp!) Outback Steakhouse for grub from down under.

We hardly knew ye: Another one bites the dust in Williamsburg, but according to Eater, it may not be for long. The seven-month old Southern restaurant, Honeychiles', just may swap its cramped digs — literally the side window of the Charleston bar on Bedford — for a full, self-sustaining Billyburg space.

Say wha? Although hot chef du jour Nate Smith, formerly of the Spotted Pig, opened Dean Street in Prospect Heights just one month ago, the New York Times reported that he's already moved on. And it wasn't an amicable split either. Apparently, Smith drew the line at TV being played during dinner hours, and commented that he "didn't want to be part of a sports bar." Smith and his wife, pastry chef Sophie Kamin, are looking to start a new project in Williamsburg "sooner rather than later."

No Coke — Pepsi: Cheeburger Cheeburger has opened at the corner of Seventh Avenue and Third Street in Park Slope. The Florida-based chain is named after a line in an old "Saturday Night Live" sketch — fortunately not from "Samurai Delicatessen."

Marius divorce: There's work being done at the Marius Cafe on Henry Street, which closed for "renovations" over the summer. Our friends at Brownstoner report that a sign in the window of the new place at the corner of Union Street says it will be called "Tessa and Luco." Too bad; Marius had decent bagels.

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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6

yet, as amateur chefs create dishes using beer or liquor. \$20 (advance); \$25 (at the door). 1–5 pm. The Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thefoodexperiments.com.

FILM, "DEM BUMS": The history of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Free with museum admission. 2 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pier-report St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4411 X 246].

THEATER, "ANNE OF A THOUSAND DATES": Staged reading of Alan Magill's comedy. Free. 2:30 pm. Kings Highway Branch of the Brooklyn Public Li-

brary [2115 Ocean Ave. between Kings Highway and Quentin Road in Midwood, (718) 339-2783], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

FILM, "GENEALOGIES OF A CRIME": As part of the Catherine Deneuve retrospective. \$12, \$7 members. 4:30 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

MON, MARCH 7

READING, JONATHAN EVI-SON: Author of "West of Here." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], www.bookcourt.org.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

COMEDY, HOT TUB: Variety show hosted by Kristen Schaal and Kurt Braunohler. \$5 in advance, \$8 at the door. 7:30 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], www.littlefieldnyc.com.

TUES, MARCH 8

FILM, "AMARCORD": Coming-of-age film directed by Fellini. Free. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100], www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org.

READING, BROWNSTONE POETS: Open mic followed by poets Davidson Garret and Susanna Rich. Free. 7 pm. Tillie's [248 DeKalb Ave. at Vanderbilt Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 783-6140], www.tilliesofbrooklyn.com.

READING, JENNIFER GILMORE: Author of "Something Red." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], www.bookcourt.org.

FILM, "THE CREATURES": As part of the Catherine Deneuve retrospective. \$12, \$7 members. 7 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "BEAUTIFUL BURNOUT": 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

drink. 7–10 pm. Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pier-report St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111], www.brooklyn-history.org.

READING, MELISSA MILGROM: Author of "Still Life: Adventures in Taxidermy" by Melissa Milgrom. Free. 7–9 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

FILM, "THE UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG": As part of the Catherine Deneuve retrospective. \$12, \$7 members. 7 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE AMERICAN CLOCK": 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL": 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "BEAUTIFUL BURNOUT": 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

SAT, MARCH 12

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 2 and 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 3 and 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE AMERICAN CLOCK": 3 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE LEGEND OF BUSTER NEAL": 3 pm and 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE MIKADO": 3 pm. See Saturday, March 5.

THEATER, "BEAUTIFUL BURNOUT": 4 pm and 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

OTHER

READING, TREVOR COR-SON: Author of "The Secret Lives of Lobsters." Free. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch [Flatbush Avenue at Eastern Parkway in Grand Army Plaza in Park Slope, (718) 230-2100].

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WED, MARCH 9

FILM, "HEARTBEAT": As part of the Catherine Deneuve retrospective. \$12, \$7 members. 7 pm. Brooklyn Academy of Music [30 Lafayette Ave. near St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], www.bam.org.

THEATER, "TREASURE ISLAND": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THEATER, "THE DIARY OF A MADMAN": 7:30 pm. See Friday, March 4.

READING, JOSHUA FOER: Reading from his new book, "Moonwalking with Einstein." Free. 7:30 pm. Greenlight Bookstore [686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200], greenlightbookstore.com.

THEATER, "BEAUTIFUL BURNOUT": 8 pm. See Friday, March 4.

THURS, MARCH 10


READING, NORA OLSEN: Author of "The End." Free. 6:30 pm. Brooklyn Public Library Greenpoint Branch [107 Norman Ave. at Leonard Street in Greenpoint, (718) 349-8504].

READING, WESLEY STACE: Author of "Charles Jessold, Considered as a Murderer." Free. 7 pm. BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], www.bookcourt.org.

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Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 01/26/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000087-11/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Adela (Middle) Sasha (Last) Turcios Barahona. My present name is (First) Sasha (Middle) Adela (Last) Turcios Barahona (infant). My present address is 14 Kossuth Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11221. My place of birth is Brooklyn, N.Y. My date of birth is July 16, 2010.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 01/28/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000094-11/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Pernetha (Middle) Sharima (Last) Waddy. My present name is (First) Pernetha (Middle) Sharima (Last) Rodgers AKA Pernetha S. Waddy. My present address is 202 York Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. My place of birth is Brooklyn, N.Y. My date of birth is April 27, 1989.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/25/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000217-11/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Rosita (Last) Fidelis. My present name is (First) Rosita (Last) Njoku AKA Chika Rosita Njoku AKA Chika R Njoku. My present address is 536 Willoughby St., Brooklyn, NY 11206. My place of birth is Nigeria. My date of birth is October 05, 1977.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/24/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000206-11/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Bryan (Middle) Manuel (Last) Cruz Rodriguez. My present name is (First) Bryan (Middle) Manuel (Last) Rodriguez Cruz (infant). My present address is 5622 4 Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11220. My place of birth is Brooklyn, N.Y. My date of birth is June 23, 2007.

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 02/18/2011, bearing Index Number NC-000179-11/KI, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, grants me the right to: Assume the name of (First) Stephanie (Middle) Erin (Last) Shollenburg. My present name is (First) Stephanie (Middle) Erin (Last) Stickel. My present address is 1410 Cortelyou Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11226. My place of birth is Plano, Texas. My date of birth is May 26, 1985.

NOTICE OF GUARDIANSHIP ACTION
TO: Sean Jones
FROM: Clerk of Court - At

Risk New Castle County Maxie Judon, Petitioner, has brought suit against you for Guardianship in the Family Court of the State of Delaware for New Castle County, petition number 09-34545. If you do not serve a response to the petition to the Court and to the Petitioner's Attorney or the Petitioner if not represented at the following address: 1710 Blatty Place Newark, DE 19702 Within 20 days after publication of this notice, exclusive of the date of publication, as required by statute, this action will be heard without further notice at Family Court.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PIERCE FILED IN COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE FEB 08 2011 PIERCE COUNTY WASHINGTON KEVIN STOCK, COUNTY CLERK IN RE THE ESTATE OF LOY JAMES STAFINBIL, DECEDENT TO: THERESA MARIE STAFINBIL and JAMES RUSSELL STAFINBIL TO: ALL OTHER HEIRS NOTICE is hereby given that on January 25, 2011, LOY JAMES STAFINBIL died testate leaving an Estate in Pierce County, Washington On February 8th, 2011, JAMES L DAILY was appointed Personal Representative of this Estate. NOTICE is also hereby given that the Last Will and Testament of LOY JAMES STAFINBIL dated July 1, 2008 was admitted to probate and that pursuant to RCW 11.24 10 any individuals who are interested in said Will shall appear within four (4) months immediately following the probate, and by petition to the Court having jurisdiction contest the validity of said Will, or appear to have the Will proven which has been rejected. If no persons appear within the time frame outlined by RCW 11.24 10, the probate or rejection of such Will shall be binding and final.

NOTICE is also hereby given that the Personal Representative, JAMES L DAILY, is looking for any possible heirs to this Estate, namely THERESA MARIE STAFINBIL and JAMES RUSSELL STAFINBIL and/or any known relatives of LOY JAMES STAFINBIL, the Personal Representative would request that they contact the attorney stated herein below immediately. A petition, objection, and notice may be filed with the Clerk of the Pierce County Superior Court at Pierce County Superior Court 930 Tacoma Avenue South, Tacoma, Washington 98402 and a copy must be served on GERALD W. NEIL, of NEIL, NETTLETON 7 NEIL, P.S. Attorney for Personal Representative 5302 Pacific Avenue Tacoma, WA 98408 DATED this 8 day of February, 2011 GERALD W. NEIL ESBA # 5295 Attorney for the Personal Representative

I Store Green Self Storage will sell at public auction at 12 Hall Street, Brooklyn, NY all the personal property stored in its facility by: Barbara S. Lugo unit # B2627 consisting of household goods and misc items Robert Small unit # B24L02 consisting of household goods and misc items

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State University of New York Notice to Bidders



State University of New York Downstate Medical Center will receive sealed Proposals for Project No. 05-117 Titled, "Renovation To Existing Learning Resource Center" until 2:00 P.M. Local Time on March 18, 2011. Submit bids to the office of Mr. Frantz Poyau, Purchase Associate, Contracts and Procurements, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 113, Brooklyn, NY 11203. The proposals will then be publicly opened and read aloud at 450 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, Room # B-39.

Description: Experienced Contractor to provide construction services including all labor, equipment and materials necessary for the renovation of the existing Learning Resource Center at Downstate Medical Center.

All work on this Contract is to be completed within 120 calendar days starting ten (10) calendar days after the contract approval date of the New York State Comptroller.

Bidding and Contract Documents may be examined free of charge at the Campus by contacting: Frantz Poyau, Purchases Associate, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, Tel. (718)-613-8724, email: frantz.poyau@downstate.edu.

A mandatory pre-bid conference and project walk-through will be held on March 9, 2011 at 10:00 AM with all Contractors assembled at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in the Main Lobby, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11203.

Qualification of Bidders: Prospective Bidders are urged to review the Information for Bidders Section in the Project Manual for Bidder Qualifications and Minimum Mandatory Requirements.

A complete CD of the Contract Documents for bidding may be obtained from: Mr. Frantz Poyau, Purchase Associate, Contracts and Procurements, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 113, Brooklyn, NY 11203, Tel. (718)-613-8724, email: frantz.poyau@downstate.edu Section 143 of State Finance Law requires payment of a deposit to receive the Contract Documents. Accordingly, a deposit check in the amount of \$49.00, made payable to SUNY Downstate Medical Center is required to receive the CD. Deposits of \$50.00 or less are non-refundable.

Bids must be submitted in duplicate in accordance with the instructions contained in the Information for Bidders. A Bid Security will be required for each bid in an amount not less than five (5) percent of the Total Bid. It is the policy of the State of New York and the State University of New York to encourage minority and women-owned business enterprise participation in this project by contractors, subcontractors and suppliers, and all bidders are expected to cooperate in implementing this policy.

The State University of New York reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

State University of New York Notice to Bidders



The State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center will receive Qualifications from Consulting Firms to provide engineering and construction administration services for Project No: 09-150 "Basic Science Building-Replace Plumbing Systems" until Friday, March 18th, 2011, 2pm (ET) at 450 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11203, Box 113.

Minimum Mandatory Requirements: Candidates shall fulfill the following minimum criteria through submissions:

The minimum mandatory qualifications for firms that will be responsible for the design and construction administration of the project:

Candidate Minimum Mandatory Requirements:

The minimum mandatory qualifications for firms that will be responsible for the design and Construction administration of the project are as follows:

- 1.) Minimum five (5) years experience in the design of plumbing systems of a similar size, scope and complexity.
- 2.) Primary firm shall have a minimum of five (5) years experience as a professional practice.
- 3.) Professional staff and any sub-consultants with NYS Professional License(s) (i.e. Architect, Engineer, similar projects).

All work on this Contract is to be completed within 1260 calendar days starting ten (10) calendar days after the contract approval date from the Office of the New York State Comptroller.

A complete set of documents for this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) may be obtained from: Ray Selvadurai, Purchase Associate, Contracts and Procurement Department, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 113, Brooklyn, New York 11203, telephone number (718)-826-4943, email: ray.selvadurai@downstate.edu. There is no cost for the RFQ documents.

Four (4) complete sets of Qualifications must be submitted in accordance with the instructions contained in the Request for Qualifications.

A project walk-through will be held Thursday, March 10th, 2011 at 11:00 am (ET), with all prospective firms assembled at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in the Main Lobby, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11203. The project walk-through will begin promptly at 11:00 am (ET).

It is the policy of the State of New York and the State University of New York to encourage minority business enterprise participation in this project by contractors, subcontractors and suppliers, and all bidders are expected to cooperate in implementing this policy.

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